

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 23078 031449Z

47

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

TAR-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 STR-04

SAM-01 /102 W

----- 109556

R 031251Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3671

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 23078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,ECON,TH,US

SUBJECT: THAI RICE

REF: A. BRUSSELS 9833; B. STATE 256803

1. IN A MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR ON NOVEMBER 3, FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN STRONGLY OBJECTED TO REMARKS WHICH HE SAID TREASURY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOHN BUSHNELL HAD MADE TO THE EEC REGARDING EEC PLANS TO GRANT PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO THAI RICE. CHATCHAI SAID THAILAND IS ABOUT TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE EXPORT TO THE EEC OF 1,000 TONS OF RICE AND ALSO PROBABLY TOBACCO. THE THAI GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT U.S. OFFICIALS WILL NOT UNDERCUT THAILAND BY PRESSURING THE EEC NOT TO GRANT PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

2. THE AMBASSADOR SAID WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH WASHINGTON ON THESE ALLEGATIONS AND HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY BOTH WASHINGTON AND OUR MISSION TO THE EEC THAT THIS MATTER WAS NOT DISCUSSED AND THAT NO U.S. REPRESENTATIVE HAD ATTEMPTED IN ANY WAY TO UNDERCUT THE SALE OF THAI RICE. ASA SARASIN, DIRECTOR GENERAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 23078 031449Z

OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SAID AT THIS POINT THAT THAILAND HAD "UNIMPEACHABLE INFORMATION" THAT DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUSHNELL HAD INDEED TALKED AGAINST PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR THAI RICE AND HAD EVEN DISCUSSED THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL POLICIES OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT WITH MEMBERS OF THE EEC.

3. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WHILE THE U.S. AND THAILAND COMPETED IN SOME AREAS, WE WOULD DO NOTHING TO UNDERCUT THAILAND'S POSITION IN A MATTER SUCH AS THIS. HE CITED OUR HANDLING OF THE RECENT TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUR SINCERE WISH TO SUPPORT THE THAI ECONOMY DURING THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD.

4. WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE CLARIFICATION PROVIDED REFTELS. WE HOPE WE HAVE LAID THIS MATTER TO REST.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RICE, PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO23078
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750381-0052
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751182/aaaacvdw.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BRUSSELS 9833, 75 STATE 256803
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI RICE
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, TH, US, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006